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10/662,618	09/15/2003	John W. Chamberlain	0112300-752	9761

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EXAMINER

WEBER, CHRISTOPHER STEVEN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3714

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

03/28/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This office action is in response to applicant's amendment filed on January 9th, 2006. Applicant amends claims 1,5,7,10,13,14,17,26; cancels claims 16 and 23; and responds to claim rejections. Claims 1-15,17-22, and 24-29 remain pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1-15,17-22, and 24-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Crevelt et al. US Patent 5,902,983 (hereinafter "Crevelt").
2. Regarding at least claim 1 and 26, Crevelt teaches a gaming device operable to request and receive funds electronically, said gaming device comprising: a game processor operable to receive a wager from a player to initiate a wagering game (Fig 1 Item 6); an EFT controller operable to process an electronic fund request by the player, the controller operating without direct communication between the game processor (Fig 1 Item 11); a card reader operable with the controller (Fig 1 Item 14); a payment device operable with the processor, the payment device providing a monetary amount to a player upon inserting a card into the card reader and receiving an approval for the electronic fund transfer request from a remote fund repository that communicates with

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the controller via a banking network (2:50-67); and a housing that supports the controller, the processor, the card reader and the payment device (Fig. 1,2); informing the gaming establishment of the amount (8:42-61).

3. Regarding at least claim 2, Crevelt teaches a debit card (2:50-67).

4. Regarding at least claims 3-7, Crevelt teaches the amount is gaming credits; credit meter; first display operable to display EFT information; a second gaming display; and an EFT input device (2:10-14, 5:55-63, Fig 1 Items 18, 8, and 16).

5. Regarding at least claims 10-12 and 27, Crevelt teaches a local casino network that interfaces with the banking (EFT) network and the game processor; the network supports player tracking; and the network has a log (Fig 2, Fig 3 item 74, and Col 5:35-40).

6. Regarding at least claim 14 and 15, Crevelt teaches an EFT processor that send transfer requests and receives response and a second processor that controls a game ticket printer, the two processors are not directly connected, and the fund transfer requires a PIN (Fig 1 Items 6, 11, 14; Col 2:50-67, Col 10:48 through Col 11:9)

7. Regarding at least claim 17, Crevelt teaches a gaming device with an EFT controller and a game processor that are not in direct communication with each other, a first network (Upper half of Fig 2) which handles EFT processing limitation as discussed in various embodiments above, a second network (Lower half of Fig 2) which embodies the gaming aspect and receives transferred funds.

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8. Regarding at least claim 19, It is inherent in Crevelt that the system would communicate with multiple fund repositories in order for customers to use their debit cards as Crevelt teaches.

9. Regarding at least claims 20 and 21, Crevelt teaches that a plurality of devices are linked to the second network at that they can be different games, Fig 2 Items 22-26 and Col 4:54-60)

10. Regarding at least claims 24 and 25, Crevelt teaches a ticket printer located on or alternatively away from the gaming device (10:48-11:9).

11. Regarding the network configuration of claims. 8, 9, 13, 18, 22, 28, and 29, wherein the banking network is a wide area network (claim 8); wherein the banking network includes an internet (claim 9); an integrated circuit board that interfaces between the processor and the local casino network (claim 13); wherein the first network includes an internet (claim 18); wherein the second network is a local area network (claim 22); wherein transmitting from the first processor includes transmitting over a wide area network (claim 28); and wherein receiving at the second processor includes receiving from a local area network (claim 29); these limitation are inherent from Crevelt's network configuration which features the linking of gaming machines within a casino, and interlinking casinos to the remote financial institutions. (Fig 1,2, Col 1:26-39.

12. **Examiner's Note:** Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant.

Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are

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applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant, in preparing the responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner.

Response to Arguments

13. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-29 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Citation of pertinent prior art

14. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

15. Lucero 5,457,306

Conclusion

16. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

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TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher S. Weber whose telephone number is 571-272-3064. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert E. Pezzuto can be reached on 571-272-6996. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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CSW

Ronald A. Sauer
Primary Examiner
3/26/07